

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-21. (canceled).

22. (currently amended) An answer system for technical support comprising:

~~an answer system for a user, having a first inquiry information registering means for registering inquiry information relating to power plant techniques and sent from a power plant user via a telecommunication network, and a first inquiry history information registering means for registering inquiry history information relating to the power plant techniques and sent from the power plant user;~~

~~an answer system for a service furnisher, having a second inquiry information registering means for registering the inquiry information relating to the power plant techniques and registered in said first inquiry information registering means of said answer system for a user, and a second inquiry history information registering means for registering the inquiry history information relating to the power plant techniques and sent from the power plant user;~~

~~means for preventing the inquiry information relating to the power plant techniques and registered in said first inquiry information registering means of said answer system for a user and the inquiry history information registered in said first~~

~~inquiry history information registering means for the inquiry history information from being accessed by outsiders via the telecommunication network;~~

~~means for preventing the inquiry information relating to the power plant techniques and registered in said second inquiry information registering means of said answer system for a service furnisher and the inquiry history information registered in said second inquiry history registering means for inquiry history information from being accessed by outsiders via the telecommunication network;~~

~~communication means for communicating the inquiry information relating to the power plant techniques and registered in said second inquiry information registering means to an information service furnisher;~~

~~means for inputting an answer responding to the communicated inquiry information relating to the power plant techniques; and~~

~~means for sending the input answer to the user via the telecommunication network; and~~

~~wherein said answer system for a service furnisher is provided with a processing program for taking in periodically and registering the inquiry information registered in said first inquiry information registering means of said answer system for a user into said second inquiry information registering means of said answer system for a service furnisher, and registering the answer responding to the communicated inquiry relating to the power plant techniques and inputted in said answer inputting means into said first history information registering means of said answer system for a user, and~~

~~said answer system for a user is provided with a retrieving means constructed so that the user is able to retrieve the inquiry history information relating to the power plant techniques, said inquiry history information having been inquired of by the user and registered in said first inquiry history information registering means for the inquiry history information~~an answer center for a service furnisher, conducting transmission and reception of information with a computer of a user of a power plant via a telecommunication network and furnishing information relating to techniques of components of said power plant to the user;

a web server provided on said telecommunication network,

a firewall for allowing predetermined users to access said web server and preventing outsiders other than the predetermined users from accessing unjustly said web server;

wherein

said web server has a web server for the user, that is accessed by a predetermined user and provided with an answer system for the user, and a web server for the service furnisher, that is accessed by said answer center and provided with an answer system for the service furnisher,

said answer system for the user and said answer system for the service furnisher each have inquiry information registering means for registering inquiry information relating to power plant component techniques sent from the predetermined user, and an inquiry-history information registering means for registering the inquiry information and answer information to the inquiry information

as inquiry-history information of the inquiry relating to power plant component techniques,

said answer system for the user is further provided with a processing program for registering the inquiry information relating to power plant component techniques, inputted by the predetermined user, into said inquiry information registering means of said answer system for the user, and a retrieving means constructed so that the predetermined user is able to retrieve the inquiry-history information relating to power plant component techniques, said inquiry-history information having been inquired by the user and registered in said inquiry-history information registering means of said answer system for the user, and

said answer system for the service furnisher is further provided with a processing program for taking in periodically the inquiry information registered in said inquiry information registering means of said answer system for the user and registering the taken information into said inquiry information registering means of said answer system for the service furnisher, and communication means for communicating the inquiry information relating to the power plant component techniques and registered in said inquiry information registering means of said answer system for service furnisher to said answer center;

a firewall for preventing predetermined users from accessing said web server for the service furnisher;

means for inputting an answer responding to inquiry information relating to power plant component techniques and communicated to said answer center; and

answer sending means for sending the answer inputted by said input means to the user via the telecommunication network.

23. (previously presented) An answer system for technical support according to claim 22, wherein said answer system for a user includes means for sending information including voice data and/or dynamic image data to the user.

24. (currently amended) An answer system for technical support according to claim 22, ~~furnishing technical information services relating to power plant techniques via a telecommunication network, said answer system comprising:~~

~~a first web server for receiving inquiry information relating to power plant techniques and sent from a power plant user via the telecommunication network;~~

~~an answer system for a user, constructed of a first inquiry information database, incorporated in said first web server, for registering inquiry information relating to the power plant techniques, and a first inquiry history database for registering inquiry history information from the power plant user;~~

~~a second web server having an answer system for a service furnisher incorporated therein, said answer system for a service furnisher being constructed of a second inquiry information database for taking in and registering inquiry information relating to the power plant techniques, registered in said first inquiry information database of said answer system for a user, and a second inquiry history information database for registering inquiry history information from the power plant user;~~

~~a first fire wall for preventing the inquiry information relating to the power plant techniques and registered in said first inquiry information database of said first web server and the inquiry history information registered in said first inquiry history database from being accessed by outsiders via the telecommunication network;~~

~~a second fire wall for preventing the inquiry information relating to the power plant techniques and registered in said second inquiry information database of said second web server and the inquiry history information registered in said second inquiry history database from being accessed by outsiders;~~

~~an intranet for communicating the inquiry information received by said second web server to a service furnisher;~~

~~an input unit for inputting an answer to the inquiry information communicated via said intranet; and~~

~~a mail server for sending the answer to an inquiry from the user inputted in said input unit; and~~

~~wherein said answer system for a service furnisher is provided with a processing program for taking in periodically and registering the inquiry information registered in said first inquiry information database of said answer system for a user into said second inquiry information database of said answer system for a service furnisher, and registering the answer to the communicated inquiry relating to the power plant techniques and inputted in said input unit into said first history information database of said answer system for a user, and~~

~~said answer system for a user is provided with a retrieving means constructed so that the user is able to retrieve the inquiry history information relating to the power~~

~~plant techniques, said inquiry history information having been inquired of by the user and registered in said first registering means for the inquiry history~~

~~information wherein~~

said web server for the user receives inquiry information relating to the power plant component techniques from the predetermined user via an internet,

said web server for the service furnisher sends inquiry information relating to the power plant component techniques from the predetermined user to said answer center via Intranet, and

said answer sending means has a mail server.

25. (previously presented) An answer system for technical support according to claim 22, further comprising a means for counting work hours of a professional staff which have corresponded with the inquiry sent from the user and reporting said work hours or charges calculated based on the work hours to said user.

26. (previously presented) An answer system for technical support according to claim 22, further comprising a translation system for translating an answer sent from said information service furnisher to said user.

27. – 28. (canceled)

29. (new) An answer system for technical support comprising:

an answer center for a service furnisher, conducting transmission and reception of information with a computer of a user of a power plant via a telecommunication network and furnishing information relating to techniques of components of said power plant to the user;

a web server provided on said telecommunication network,

a firewall for allowing predetermined users to access said web server and preventing outsiders other than the predetermined users from accessing unjustly said web server;

wherein

said web server is provided with an answer system for the user, that is accessed by the predetermined user, and an answer system for the service furnisher, that is accessed from said answer center,

said answer system for the user and said answer system for the service furnisher each have inquiry information registering means for registering inquiry information relating to the power plant component techniques sent from the predetermined user, and an inquiry-history information registering means for registering the inquiry information and answer information to the inquiry information as inquiry-history information of the inquiry relating to power plant component techniques,

said answer system for the user is further provided with a processing program for registering the inquiry information relating to power plant components techniques, inputted by the predetermined user, into said inquiry information registering means of

said answer system for the user, and a retrieving means constructed so that the predetermined user is able to retrieve the inquiry-history information relating to power plant component techniques, said inquiry-history information having been inquired by the user and registered in said inquiry-history information registering means of said answer system for the user, and

said answer system for the service furnisher is further provided with a processing program for taking in periodically the inquiry information registered in said inquiry information registering means of said answer system for the user and registering the taken information into said inquiry information registering means of said answer system for the service furnisher, and communication means of said answer system for the service furnisher, and communication means for communicating the inquiry information relating to the power plant component techniques and registered in said inquiry information registering means of said answer system for the service furnisher to said answer center;

means for inputting an answer responding to inquiry information relating to power plant component techniques and communicated to said answer center; and

answer sending means for sending the answer inputted by said input means to the user via the telecommunication network.

30. (new) An answer system for technical support comprising:

an answer center for a service furnisher, conducting transmission and reception of information with a computer of a user of a power plant via

telecommunication network and furnishing information relating to techniques of components of said power plant to the user;

a web server provided on said telecommunication network,

a firewall for allowing predetermined users to access said web server and preventing outsiders other than the predetermined users from accessing unjustly said web server;

wherein

said web server has a web server for the user, that is accessed by a predetermined user via an internet (said telecommunication network) and provided with an answer system for the user, and a web server for the service furnisher, that is accessed from said answer center via an Intranet (said telecommunication network) and provided with an answer system for the service furnisher,

said answer system for the user and said answer system for the service furnisher each have inquiry information registering means for registering the inquiry information relating to the power plant component techniques sent from the predetermined user,

said answer system for the user is further provided with a processing program for registering the inquiry information relating to power plant component techniques, inputted by the predetermined user, into said inquiry information registering means of said answer system for the user, and

said answer system for the service furnisher is further provided with a processing program for taking in periodically the inquiry information registered in said inquiry information registering means of said answer system for the user and

registering the taken information into said inquiry information registering means of said answer system for the service furnisher, and communication means for communicating the inquiry information relating to the power plant component techniques via said Intranet and registered in said inquiry information registering means of said answer system for the service furnisher to said answer center;

a firewall for preventing predetermined users from accessing said web server for the service furnisher;

means for inputting an answer responding to inquiry information relating to power plant component techniques and communicated to said answer center; and

answer sending means for sending the answer inputted by said input means to the user via the telecommunication network.